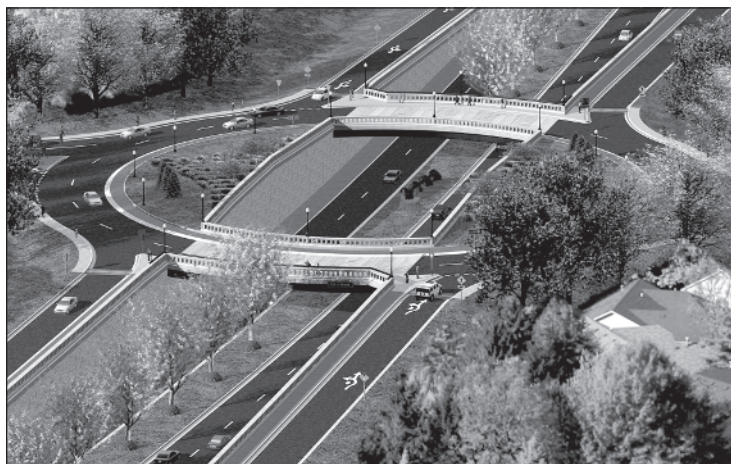




News from the CITY OF CARMEL

For the Citizens of Carmel

Volume 2 • 2007



Preliminary Keystone Parkway plans for 126th street roundabout.

AMERICAN
STRUCTUREPOINT

Governor Transfers Ownership of Keystone Avenue to City

Most citizens would agree that traffic along Keystone Avenue from 96th Street to U.S. 31 is a problem. With Governor Mitch Daniels' announcement that the state will pay Carmel \$90 million to take over the roadway, that situation will improve dramatically. "This is an unprecedented amount from the state for a road relinquishment," said Mayor Jim Brainard.

The City of Carmel's plan to reduce congestion on this busy thoroughfare is to build six roundabout-style interchanges. The construction plan calls for lowering Keystone Avenue to run under major intersections and building roundabouts at grade for drivers on east-west cross streets, such as 116th Street.

"Hamilton County will get a major transportation improvement sooner and the state's taxpayers save money in the long run," said Governor Daniels. "Mayor Brainard has again shown

the imagination that is making his a great new Hoosier city."

Tentative terms of the agreement call for the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) to provide Carmel with \$90 million, in installments, to reconstruct and redesign the road. Carmel will pursue a federal earmark for the balance of the project.

"This innovative design will link our community in new ways," Brainard said. "Having Keystone run below cross street roundabout intersections will improve the safety of this roadway exponentially. This design is also safer for walkers and bicyclists because they can use a pedestrian bridge, separated from traffic, to cross Keystone. In addition, drivers will no longer have to wait in long lines for stoplights to change."

City officials plan to break ground on the project in early 2008.

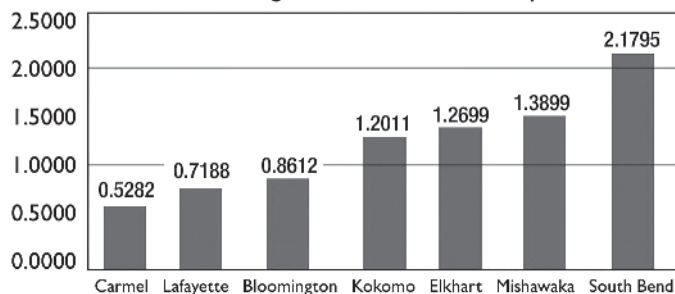
Mayor Presents 2008 Budget and Long-term Fiscal Plan

Mayor Jim Brainard shared plenty of positive fiscal news when he presented the 2008 budget at a special City Council meeting. In addition to the budget, the Mayor also presented a detailed, updated 10-year fiscal plan for the City, along with a rate cap resolution, which holds the tax rate for 2008 the same as the 2007 tax rate for Carmel.

The 2008 tax rate of 0.4329 means a Carmel resident will have a lower city tax rate than they did a decade ago. Carmel's overall or district tax rate was the lowest of any other city or town in Hamilton County.

2006 City-Only Property Tax Rates

Not including school and other non-city rates



Furthermore, if other Indiana cities' tax rates mirror last year's, Carmel will again have the lowest of any city its size or larger in the state. The good news continues with the 10-year fiscal plan, which reflects a stable tax rate through 2017. It also shows fully-funded Police and Fire Pension funds.

"The City is realizing some benefits for the economies of scale of providing city services for a larger number of people," said Mayor Brainard. "It has also been our goal to provide the citizens of Carmel with the highest level of service for the lowest possible cost. I believe the budget and tax rate accomplish that goal."

The 10-year fiscal plan details the total debt, showing a steadily declining debt bond balance from 2008 on. Carmel has been rated by both Moody's and Standard and Poor's with high ratings. "The high ratings are an excellent indicator that our City is on sound financial ground, and the future fiscal position of the City also looks good," said Mayor Brainard.

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A Message from the Mayor

These are truly exciting times in Carmel. With a solid fiscal plan and stable tax rates, the future looks very promising. Being able to finally fix the traffic and safety problems on Keystone will make a much safer more efficient parkway.

The Carmel Arts and Design District is becoming a unique destination; it was the location for "Rock the District" in July and in September it will be the setting for the 10th annual International Arts Festival. The festival offers an excellent opportunity to enjoy the arts, dancing, food, and entertainment, while you mingle with your friends and neighbors. I hope to see you there.

In this issue of the newsletter, read how Carmel Utilities has made strides in providing strong water pressure and dependable distribution to our community. The Monon tunnel is now open. When pursuing recreational activities on the Monon Greenway, you may now enjoy safe passage under 116th Street. Read about other road, intersection, roundabout



Mayor Jim Brainard

and pedestrian multi-use path construction projects due to be complete this fall.

As always, please feel free to call or email us with your ideas, suggestions or responses to events going on in the Carmel community. We want to hear from you.

Very truly yours,

Mayor Jim Brainard

Carmel Utilities Upgrades Infrastructure

Carmel Utilities has been upgrading water distribution systems on the northwest side to ensure water pressure and availability is sufficient throughout the year.

Since 2002, when the purchase of Hamilton Western Utility was finalized, about \$5 million has been spent on upgrades in this area. Improvements to the water distribution system should improve and stabilize the water pressure. The improvements include a 20" distribution line from the water tower on 146th Street, east of Keystone, to a new booster station by Oak Ridge and 136th Street, and a new water tower on west 131st Street between Town and Shelborne Roads.

"The Utility is implementing improvements to ensure water main breaks or booster station failures do not affect water distribution to these areas. It is unfortunate that the main breaks occurred this summer before these changes were made," said John Duffy, Director of Carmel Utilities.

In the Mt. Carmel area, an existing valve has been integrated for use in the system, further increasing water pressure to homes. This fall, Carmel Utilities will run a new transmission main along 146th



Street from Spring Mill to about Oak Ridge Road. This will provide an alternate route for water should a break occur in another system line, and it will also improve water pressure on a more consistent basis.

No Water Restrictions, But Conservation Appreciated

Carmel did not have to restrict water usage during this extremely dry, hot summer because the City's water utility has worked diligently to expand and improve the water infrastructure to handle increased demand, particularly on the west side. However, water conservation is always appreciated and prudent during times of peak demand.

"Many people do not realize that the increased demand for water also requires more electricity to process the water at our treatment plants. So, conserving water also conserves electricity," explained Duffy.

Generous Grant Will Assist City in Emerald Ash Borer Management Efforts

Residents driving on Hazel Dell Parkway between 96th Street and 116th Street, may notice many newly planted trees. Thanks to \$6950 in funds from a Community Tree Planting Partnership Grant, the city is able to replace ash trees with 60 new varieties of trees in conjunction with management efforts along Hazel Dell against the emerald ash borer.

The Carmel project will

increase the tree cover, enhance environmental health and increase species diversity. In addition to planting trees, the project will include an educational component. The Carmel Clay Library and Carmel High School classrooms will present a module which covers the emerald ash borer, homeowner treatment options and the importance of proper tree planting.

A video about the importance of urban forestry efforts in Carmel will also be produced and aired on Government Access Cable Channel 16.

"The City is committed to a healthy urban forest and its benefits," said Scott Brewer, Carmel Urban Forester. "This grant and the project associated with the grant will go a long way in helping us achieve this goal."



Emerald Ash Borer

Emerald Ash Borer is named for its dark metallic green color. EAB is an exotic beetle. The adults nibble on ash foliage but cause little damage. The larvae (the immature stage) feed on the inner bark of ash trees, disrupting the tree's ability to transport water and nutrients eventually causing the tree's death.

The Monon Tunnel Opens As 116th Street Improvements Are Complete



City officials and representatives from Farrar, Garvey and Associates and Beaty Construction cut the ribbon at the 116th Street Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. Pictured right to left: Ron Carter, Councilman, Joe Griffiths, Councilman, Jon Worsham, Beaty Construction, Rick Sharp, Councilman, Mayor Jim Brainard, Mike McBride, City Engineer, and Eric VonHoven and John Farrar both with Farrar, Garvey and Associates.

Other Road Improvements Completed this Summer and Fall



As the road construction season winds down, the following projects will also be completed this year:

- 136th Street from Ditch Road to Spring Mill Road will be completed in November 2007.
- 136th Street from Spring Mill Road to Oak Ridge Road will be completed in November 2007.
- 136th Street and Oakridge Road roundabout was completed and opened to traffic on August 21, 2007.
- The roundabout at 126th Street and Towne Road was opened on July 23, 2007.
- A new roadway, Grand Boulevard, connecting Guilford Road, just south of Carmel Middle School, to Main Street, just west of Old Meridian, is anticipated to be open this fall.
- Pennsylvania Street from 103rd Street to 106th Street is anticipated to be complete in mid to late September 2007.
- The Illinois Street extension is now complete. The road now extends to 136th Street.

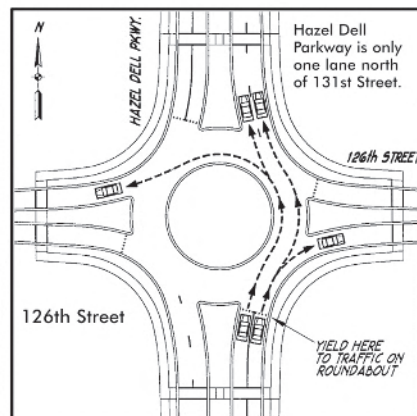
Bikers, walkers, runners and rollerbladers on the Monon Greenway can “cross” 116th Street safely. The new tunnel under 116th Street is now open. The tunnel was built to improve safety for Monon Trail users trying to cross the street, especially during periods of high traffic volume.

In addition to the tunnel under 116th Street, the roadway was widened to a four-lane curbed, boulevard style street, with multi-use paths on both sides, a new storm sewer system and a new bridge carrying 116th Street over Carmel Creek. With the completion of this project, 116th Street is now a landscaped four-lane boulevard from Keystone Avenue to Meridian Street.



Tunnel opens allowing monon pedestrians and bikers to travel the trail without stopping for 116th Street traffic.

“This new design will allow traffic to flow more smoothly to and from our Meridian Street Corridor and eliminate the hazard of crossing 116th Street for Monon Greenway users,” said Mayor Jim Brainard. “Being able to pay for 80 percent of this project by bringing back your federal tax dollars to this community is very gratifying.”



Here are some tips to remember when driving the roundabouts.

- All approaching traffic must yield to traffic in the roundabout.
- As you approach the roundabout, choose the appropriate lanes for turning right, going straight or turning left.
- Keep your car in the same lane as you enter and exit the roundabout.
- If you enter on the left, stay in the left lane on the roundabout.
- If you enter on the right, stay in the right lane on the roundabout.

City Department News

Updated Population Count Could Mean Extra Tax Dollars for City

This summer, census enumerators from the City of Carmel conducted a Special Census. An updated population count could mean as much as \$3 million in additional tax revenue for Carmel. These funds can be used for road projects, education for our children, programs for our seniors and other public services for the community.

"We really appreciate

Carmel citizens participating in this Special Census," said Mayor Jim Brainard. "Because tax dollars are tied to population, it is important that the count be as accurate as possible. The community's excellent response will help ensure the City gets the maximum possible amount of federal tax dollars returned to help keep our City tax rate one of the lowest in Indiana."

Dispose of Hazardous Wastes Responsibly

As residents begin organizing their sheds and garages this fall, we ask that they dispose of harmful products responsibly. Carmel's Household Hazardous Waste Disposal (HHWD) program offers a free, safe convenient way to discard hazardous household materials, such as old paint, household chemicals, lawn and garden fertilizers and other toxic materials. In addition,

Carmel's HHWD program provides for proper disposal of home medical supplies which should not be placed in the trash.

Improper disposal of these items presents a great environmental hazard, which could impact the community as a whole. This is especially true of Carmel because the city relies totally on ground-water as its water source.

The Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center is located at 901 N. Rangeline Rd.

Drop off hours at the site are as follows:

Monday, Wednesday and Friday 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Saturday 7:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Closed on Thursdays and Sundays

No drop offs while collection site is closed.

Call 571-2624 to verify HHWD will accept hazardous materials you wish to drop off. Brochures listing acceptable items are also available at the HHWD site or Carmel City Hall.

August Declared Firefighter's Appreciation Month

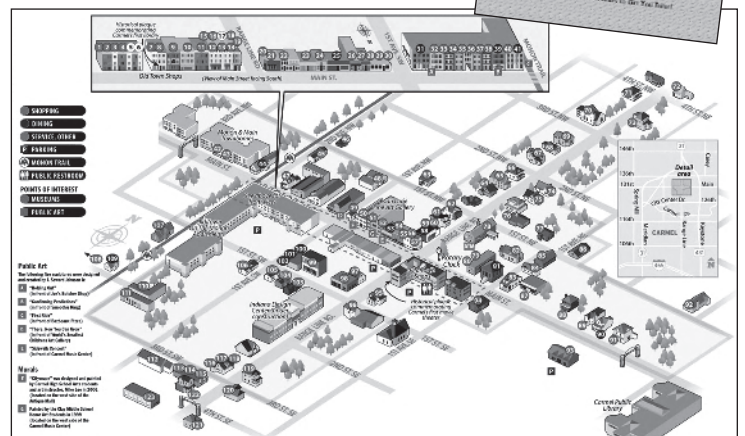
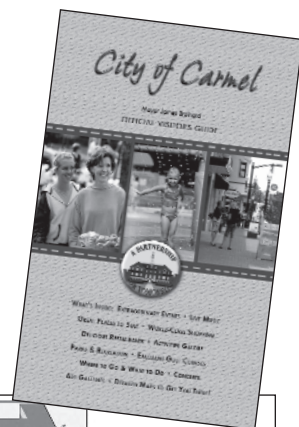
In honor of firefighters' unselfish service to the safety of the community and their nationwide effort to assist the Muscular Dystrophy Association to fight neuromuscular diseases, Mayor Brainard issued a proclamation declaring August Firefighter's Appreciation month.



The Muscular Dystrophy Association Goodwill Ambassadors of the Year, Shawna Templeton and her two girls, Amy & Emily with the Mayor and Carmel Firefighters Assistant Chief David Haboush (white shirt), Firefighter Tim Griffin and Firefighter Ian Reppert hold the Mayor's proclamation proclaiming August to be Firefighter's Appreciation Month.

Carmel's Visitors Guide Highlights City's Attractions

Carmel's new Visitors Guide showcases the City's boutiques, restaurants, entertainment and recreation opportunities. Guides are available at City Hall, Carmel library, Arts District Merchants, Chamber of Commerce or by calling 571-2400.



Map of Carmel's Arts & Design District



Carmel Public Safety Day Offers Learning and Fun for All Ages

Do you know how to use your fire extinguisher? Are you sure your child's car seat is correctly installed in your car? Attend Carmel's Public Safety Day on Saturday, September 29



from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the west parking lot of St. Vincent Carmel Hospital and learn vital health and safety information. Various Carmel City departments and private organizations will provide presentations, displays and kids' activities.



Kids will enjoy the Carmel Fire Department equipment on display, including public safety helicopters and police and fire safety vehicles. In addition, visitors can learn about family fire escape plans, when to use 911, assembling a disaster kit, bicycle and pedestrian safety, drinking water safety, and other vital health and safety information. The Carmel Police Department will perform an extrication demo, a K-9 demo, and a rappelling demo as part of the day's activities.

Saturday, September 29

10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

St. Vincent Carmel Hospital

(13500 N. Meridian St. / West Parking Lot)



*St. Vincent
Carmel Hospital*

Join the fun, and bring the family!

Upcoming Events

Events Around the City

Veterans' Day Celebration

Date: November 9

Location: Steven Coutts Fire Department Headquarters

Time: Noon

Holiday on the Square

Date: November 17

Location: Carmel Civic Square

Time: 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

What's Happening At the Parks

Fall 2007 Escape Guide will be delivered in September

Carmel Clay Parks & Recreation provides enriching, enjoyable escapes through recreation, fitness and nature. We have programs for all ages and abilities at economical prices and convenient times to fit your schedule. Here are some special Parks events to mark on your calendar:

Family Campout

Location: West Park

Date: October 5 - 6

Time: 4:30 p.m. - 9 a.m. (overnight)

Pre-registration required. Go to www.carmelclayparks.com to register.

Fall Festival

Carnival like atmosphere with food, entertainment, hay rides and "frightfully fun" games.

Location: Central Park

Date: October 27

Time: 1 - 4 p.m.

Admission is free with 5 non-perishable food items, or \$5 per person.

Remembering Our Military Veterans

Seven years ago, the Carmel Clay Veterans Memorial Corporation (CCVMC) was formed to find a site for a military veteran memorial, choose a sculptor, pick a design concept and raise the funds for the memorial. At the end of August, after having successfully achieved all its goals, the non-for-profit organization is dissolving. Today, thanks to the efforts of CCVMC, the City has a special memorial that publicly remembers its veterans. A celebration to honor the group's hard work was held at the



Veterans Memorial Plaza where each member was presented with a Range Line Pioneer award by Major Jim Brainard.

In addition, please join us at our annual Veterans' Day celebration on Friday, November 9 at the Steven Coutts Fire Department Headquarters at noon in honor of our military veterans.



Families enjoyed a visit from Major Brainard and Carmel Police and Firefighters at the ninth annual observance of National Night Out.

2007 National Night Out

"Light on Means Lights Out for Crime" was the theme for Carmel's ninth annual observance of the National Night Out. Thirteen Crime Watch neighborhoods gathered on Dona Court to participate in the event. The theme highlighted the importance of lighting up homes and businesses to deter crime and drug activity. In addition

to presenting a short program on ways to fight crime in neighborhoods, police and firefighters also took the time to visit with residents at the event.

Stephanie DiBlasio attended the event and said, "We had a great time tonight. A special thanks goes to the police officers and firefighters who stopped by to talk with us."

Festivals in Japan



"Kawachinagano Citizens' Bon-Odori Festival" was held on August 26th near Kawachinagano.

This article was submitted by Harumi Goto from our sister City Kawachinagano, Japan.

There are many festivals in Japan all through the year. Many of them started as part of religious events or activities. But this meaning has been almost lost or at least become vague nowadays and people enjoy the festivals simply as entertainments in their lives.

In summer, like in many other places all over Japan, "Bon-Odori" festivals are held in various places in Kawachinagano. "Bon-Odori" (Bon Dance) is thought to date back to the dance of joy when people greet their ancestors' spirits coming back

to their families once a year in August. "Kawachinagano Citizens' Bon-Odori Festival" was held on August 26th near Kawachinagano station and KIFA was one of the groups opened a booth for the people visited the festival.

"Danjiri Festival" is held in October in Kawachinagano. "Danjiri" is a kind of floats dedicated to the shrines, and people tow it down the streets. A new Danjiri float was built in Mikkaichi in Kawachinagano and its introduction towing was carried out on July 22nd. The highlight of the Danjiri festival is when a float turns a street corner on right angle. A man jumps up and down on top of

the Danjiri with a fan in his hand and sends signals to the people pushing the Danjiri from behind to let them know the right timing and direction to turn. Some people are running and towing the float vigorously, some manage to control the direction, each person in charge of different part works together in harmony and a large float makes a sharp turn leaning outside. What an energetic turn!

Finally let me introduce an festival in Aomori prefecture. It's called "Nebuta" festival. This is one of the three most famous festivals in the Tohoku district, the northeastern region of Honshu, the Mainland of Japan, and every year more than 3.5 million tourists visit the festival. The floats there are unusually huge and three dimensionally built, and they represents men or animals and illuminated from inside. The "Nebuta" floats move slowly to the heavy



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For more information, please visit KIFA site:
www.kifa.org/index_e.html

We also set up a forum experimentally for citizens from both cities to exchange information and opinions.

Please give it a try:
<http://carmelkifa.forumcircle.com>

Tenth Annual
**CARMEL INTERNATIONAL
 ARTS FESTIVAL**
 September 22-23, 2007



www.carmelartsfestival.org

2007 International Arts Festival Poster by Brian McFarland, Carmel architect and artist. McFarland is a nationally recognized artist for architectural renderings.

The Carmel International Arts festival, known for its diverse artistic talent, is gearing up for its 10th anniversary. It has grown considerably over the years. The festival boasts a record 180 juried artists exhibiting at the event to be held on Main Street in Carmel's Arts & Design District on September 22 and 23. Many talented artists from around the world will be showing their work.

Two artists from Carmel's sister city, Kawachinagano, Japan will also participate in the festival. Mr. Kiichi Yoshinaga, a traditional thatched roof artist, and Mrs. Mayumi Nishiura, a professional ceramic artist, will showcase their talents. Children's artwork from Kawachinagano will also be on display at the World's Smallest Children's Art Gallery.

In addition, many musical

and dancing acts will thrill visitors on the Main Stage, including the Banjo Buddies Dixieland Band. This is the second year for the event to be held in the heart of the Arts & Design District. Visitors can also enjoy the dynamic restaurants and unique shops in the area.

Families will enjoy the children's hands-on area, international food vendors and lots of entertainment both on and off stage will captivate visitors.

"The International Arts Festival showcases talented artists from around the world," said Rosemary Waters, president of the 2007 festival board. "This year we have more artists than ever, so it's a wonderful opportunity to enjoy a real variety of art. And there are some excellent dance and musical programs on the stages as well."

2007 International Arts Festival Celebrates Its 10th Anniversary

Saturday, September 22
 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Sunday, September 23
 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Location: Main Street in the
 Carmel Arts & Design District

Entertainment – Main Stage

Saturday, September 22

- 10-10:30 a.m. Opening of the Festival (Chinese Dragon)
- 10:30-11 a.m. International Dance Ensemble
- 11-12 p.m. Circle City Cloggers
- 12-1 p.m. Banjo Buddies Dixieland Band
- 1-2 p.m. Actors Theatre of Indiana
- 2-3 p.m. Indy Chinese Performers
- 3-4 p.m. Banjo Buddies Dixieland Band
- 4-5 p.m. Tennessee Walker
- 5-6 p.m. Banjo Buddies Dixieland Band
- 6-7 p.m. Blueprint Music

Sunday, September 23

- 10-10:30 a.m. Opening of the Festival
- 10:30-11 a.m. International Dance Ensemble
- 11-12 p.m. Harmony Magic
- 12-1 p.m. Indianapolis Minyo Dancers
- 1-2 p.m. Magic of C. R. Ryan
- 2-3 p.m. The Meister Winds - Authentic German Band
- 3-4 p.m. Alair
- 4-5 p.m. Dave Hepler

Entertainment – Second Stage

Saturday, September 22

- 1 p.m. Danny Russel portrays Hoosier Poet, James Whitcomb Riley

Children's Area

Free Children's Activities Provided Throughout The Festival
 Face painting, Easel Painting, Dooley the Clown,
 Monart School of Art, caricature artist, kids BMV and more!

www.carmelartsfestival.org

Upcoming 2007 Meetings

News from the City of Carmel

City Hall

One Civic Square
Carmel, Indiana 46032
(317) 571-2401
www.carmel.in.gov

Hours:

Monday - Friday
8 - 5 p.m.

City Court Hours

Monday - Friday
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Mayor's Office

Mayor James Brainard
Office: (317) 571-2401
email: jbrainard@carmel.in.gov

This newsletter is a publication of the City of Carmel. Please send your comments, suggestions and news items to City Hall.

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Office: 571-2440

Clerk-Treasurer - Diana L. Cordray

Office: 571-2414

Email: dcordray@carmel.in.gov

Upcoming 2007 Meetings

City Council Meeting Dates

The City Council meets on the first and third Mondays of the month at 6 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall

October 1 & 15

November 5 & 19

December 3

Watch City Council meetings live on Channel 16. Channel 21 replays City Council meetings every Tuesday at 7 p.m.

Board of Public Works & Safety Meetings

The Board of Public Works meets the first and third Wednesdays of the month at 10 a.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall

October 3 & 17

November 7 & 21

December 5

Plan Commission

The Plan Commission meets the third Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall

October 16

November 20

December 18

Board of Zoning Appeals

The Board of Zoning Appeals meets the fourth Monday of each month at 6 p.m. in the Caucus Room

October 22

November 26

December 17

Carmel Clay Parks and Recreation Board

The Carmel Clay Parks meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at The Monon Center, 1195 Central Park Dr. West

October 9, 7 p.m.

October 23, 6 p.m.

November 13, 7 p.m.

November 27, 6 p.m.

December 11, 7 p.m.

Check the City of Carmel website at www.carmel.in.gov for events, traffic updates and news.



Halloween Safety Tips:

Following a few safety tips will ensure Halloween will be a "howling" good time for all.

- ◆ Make sure costumes are flame-retardant and sized to fit the child
- ◆ Report any suspicious or criminal activity to Carmel Police
- ◆ Put reflective tape on costumes
- ◆ Use make-up instead of masks. Masks can obstruct children's vision
- ◆ Drive slowly all evening
- ◆ An adult should accompany younger children
- ◆ Go out in daylight and carry a flashlight in case of delay
- ◆ Keep costumed children away from pets. The pets may not recognize the child and become frightened



News from the City of Carmel

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Carmel, Indiana 46032-7569
(317) 571-2400

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